

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAS-02 SP-02 NSCE-00 CIAE-00
ACDA-12 INR-10 INRE-00 L-03 OES-09 PM-05 SS-15
SSO-00 /081 W
-----069259 030819Z /14 S

O 030508Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8454
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 7532

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, MNUC, TECH, MILI, US, PK, FR
SUBJECT: PRESS CARRIES REPORT OF ZIA LETTER TO GISCARD

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 7366 (B) ISLAMABAD 7497 (NOTAL)

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. PAKISTAN TIMES AUGUST 3 CARRIES STORY ATTRIBUTED TO THE BCC HEADLINED "CMLA'S LETTER TO GISCARD." STORY SAYS THAT CHIEF MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR (CMLA) GENERAL ZIA UL-HAQ "HAS SENT" A LETTER TO PRESIDENT GISCARD "REITERATING" THE GOP'S INTENTION TO "PROCURE A NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT."
2. STORY SAYS THE LETTER WAS DELIVERED "THROUGH A HIGH-RANKING FRENCH DIPLOMAT WHO VISITED ISLAMABAD IN THE RECENT PAST." ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, THE LETTER "IS IN RESPONSE TO THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO RENEGOTIATE THE DEAL AS THE PLANT COULD ALSO (SIC) YIELD PLUTONIUM."
3. STORY NOTES THAT "THE RESPONSE TO THIS LETTER MIGHT BE THE FINAL DECISION OF THE GOF ON THIS ISSUE". AND
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THAT THE GOF HAS "ALREADY REPORTEDLY FORWARDED AN ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL TO PAKISTAN" ALTEBLAH, THE REPORT CONCLUDES, THE DETAILS OF THE "COUNTER-PROPOSALS" HAVE NOT YET BEEN REVEALED. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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4. CMLA ZIA'S SPEECH IN BALUCHISTAN (REF A) MAY HAVE BEEN THE OPENING SHOT IN A GOP ATTEMPT TO MAKE THE ISSUE MORE PUBLIC IN THE HOPE OF DIFFUSING CRITICISM. TODAY'S PAK TIMES' STORY IS ANOTHER STEP UP IN THE LEVEL OF PUBLICITY HERE ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE REPROCESSING PLANT DEAL. SINCE THE PAK TIMES IS UNDER RELATIVELY STRICT CONTROL, WE ASSUME THAT THEIR REPLAY OF THE BBC STORY HAS THE APPROVAL OF THE GOVERNMENT. IT IS UNCLEAR, HOWEVER, IF GOP SOFTENED STORY ORIGINALLY FILED BY BBC STRINGER. REF B NOTES THAT REUTERS ALSO HAS THE STORY AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE REUTERS (OR FULL BBC) TEXT IF AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON, PARIS, OR LONDON. END CONFIDENTIAL. HUMMEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197808103/aaaadiri.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 391c0358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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